

Bush and Gorbachev

— GEORGE BUSH

Proclaim Cooperation

But Fail to Agree

on Germany, Lithuania

OB/11/9

Soviet Says West Can't Unilaterally Reshape Europe

By David Hoffman

Washington Post Staff Writer

President Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev declared yesterday that they have launched superpower relations into a new phase of cooperation and stability marked by a deepened personal rapport, but acknowledged that their differences over Germany and Lithuania were not surmounted at the summit.

Seated before an audience of senior advisers and journalists in the White House East Room for a news conference televised live in both nations, the two leaders sprinkled their remarks with expressions of respect for each other. "We have established a rapport," Gorbachev said, recalling that at the last Washington summit he had concluded that Bush "is the kind of person to do business with." Bush added, "We've moved a long, long way from the depths of the Cold War."

For all the personal chemistry on display, both leaders also conceded that underlying frictions remain as the relationship changes and the Cold War map of Europe is redrawn. "I'm not sure we narrowed them," Bush said of disagreements over the future alignment of a unified Germany, which he has insisted be part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. "We could not resolve this issue in Washington," the Soviet president agreed.

Gorbachev delivered an emotional appeal that the Soviet Union not be isolated by the West as the new European order is shaped. He warned "in no uncertain terms" that any plan for Europe "would be doomed" without both superpowers' "active participation."

Gorbachev also insisted that Soviet concerns about a unified Germany were justified by the memory of 27 million Soviet citizens who lost their lives in World War II. He declared that "these sacrifices of our people enable us to raise these matters with all nations, and we have a moral right to do so, so that everything that was obtained at such tremendous cost, that so many sacrifices would not spell new perils."

While Bush described the disagreement over Lithuania's efforts to gain independence as "one of the thorns" in the U.S.-Soviet relationship, Gorbachev cast his crack-

See SUMMIT, A18, Col. 1